

Remarks/Arguments:

Objections to the Drawings

The drawings are objected to as not showing the sub-assemblies for applying the axial forces being embodied as combinations of cylinders, screw elements, wedge mechanisms and lever mechanisms as recited in claim 35. While applicant respectfully submit that these elements are sufficiently described in the present application, claim 35 is herein canceled, with only the cylinder portion thereof incorporated into independent claim 1, and therefore this objection is moot.

Withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 34-36 and 53 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 34-36 are herein canceled. Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 which incorporates the limitations of claims 34-36 addresses the examiner's concerns and is clear and concise. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 53 stands rejected as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for each limitation. Applicant respectfully submits that the claim as amended has proper antecedent basis for each limitation. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 36 and 54 are indicated as containing allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The limitations of claim 36, along with intervening claims 34 and 35, have been incorporated into independent claim 1. As set forth above, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, have been addressed and should be withdrawn. It is respectfully submitted that independent claim 1 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 2-5, 9, 10, 12-14, 32, 33, 37-39, 53 and 54 each depend from claim 1 and are therefore allowable for at least their dependency on allowable claim 1. It is respectfully submitted that each of the dependent claims recites additional limitations not taught or suggested by the prior art.

Additionally, withdrawn claims 11, 15-31 and 41-52 each depend from allowable generic claim 1 and therefore should be reinstated and allowed.

Independent claim 8 and dependent claim 40 have herein been canceled.

It is respectfully submitted that each of the pending claims is in condition for allowance. Early reconsideration and allowance of each of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes an interview, either personal or telephonic, will advance the prosecution of this matter, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to arrange the same.

Respectfully submitted,


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